

## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on July 10, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

### **ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Present: Commissioners Craft, G. Davis, K. Davis, Kraemer, Robelotto, Virobik, and Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino

Absent: None

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

### **FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner G. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **INSPIRATIONAL**

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

*A bore is a man who deprives you of solitude without providing you with company.*

Giovanni Vincenzo Gravina

*Anyone who keeps the ability to see beauty never grows old.*

Franz Kafka

### **ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Craft moved and Commissioner Virobik seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of July 10, 2012. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 8, 2012, as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner G. Davis introduced herself to the Commission and Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand, the Commissioners and guests briefly introduced themselves to Commissioner G. Davis.

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Former Commissioner Griffith, LACCOA

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Farrah Benedict, Home Instead

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the draft of the Annual Report had been distributed to the Commission and that the report would be on the next meeting's agenda for any changes and Commission approval.

### **SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

#### **A. City Council Activities**

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the 2014 National AYSO Games would be held in Torrance and that volunteers would be needed for the event.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Centennial Plaza had been approved and construction had begun.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that there would be construction on the Hawthorne Boulevard median between Carson and Torrance Boulevard.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Friends of the Library had donated \$70,000 to the Library; with money to be used for online homework help, Adult Library programming and an e-book service.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the City would install one electronic sign, as a trial, as a method to inform residents of City activities.

Commissioner Kraemer noted the City had added a position to the Economic Development Program to help generate new business and help with existing business retention.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino stated that the three returning City Council members would be sworn in at the City Council meeting on July 10.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that Commissioner G. Davis could choose a topic to report on under Senior Citizens Concerns.

### **B. Housing**

Commissioner Virobik reported on a developer who built low income housing.

There was a discussion on scheduling a joint meeting with City Council. It was decided to place the joint meeting on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss possible agenda items and a suitable meeting date.

Commissioner Virobik presented information on an article on reverse mortgages.

### **C. Health**

Commissioner Davis reported on an article on changes in U.S. hospice care.

There was a discussion on donating your body to science.

Commissioner Davis reported on presentations she had attended at the Successful Aging Expo.

Commissioner Virobik presented information on an article about the latest California budget, which had avoided further cuts to health and human services and education programs.

Commissioner Robelotto reported on an article on the increase in alcoholism and drug addiction in seniors.

Former Commissioner Griffith discussed a social security scam letter.

### **D. Transportation**

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino reported that the Transit Department had proposed changes to bus routes and would conduct three outreach meetings for public comments on the changes. She added that the Transit Department would then go back to the City Council with the recommended final changes, which would be put into effect in September or October.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that the City Council had approved a contract for cleaning the buses, as well as replacing some fare boxes on the buses.

### **E. Community Programs**

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino noted that David Villasenor was retiring on October 31 from the Senior Program at the YMCA and stated that he had done an outstanding job for the program.

Commissioner K. Davis reported that she had enjoyed working on the candidate selection process for the Torrance Youth Council.

Commissioner K. Davis noted that the Torrance Woman's Club had supported Downtown Sounds, the Torrance Memorial Golf Tournament and a H.E.L.P. fundraiser. She added that the Club would participate in Volunteer Center Program Operation Teddy Bear and assemble 5000 backpacks for Title 1 schools.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that Rock around the Block would be on July 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in front of the Torrance Historical Museum.

Commissioner Robelotto stated that she had taken and highly recommended the Rape Aggression Defense class offered through the Torrance Police Department.

Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino announced that there would be a CERT training class in September.

Former Commissioner Griffith distributed several copies of the LACCOA Annual Report for the Commission and reviewed LACCOA's activities.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported on Sister City activities and noted that 2013 would be the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Torrance Sister City Program.

#### **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Virobik noted that Focal Point's Annual Report would be included in the Commission on Aging Annual Report. She added that during the last year, Focal Point had assisted 1379 clients and that 36% of calls had been for affordable housing.

Commissioner Virobik reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of:

#### **June 2012**

Total number of documented calls: 41	Total number of callbacks: 15
Miscellaneous calls: 64	Total number of walk-ins: 25
Total number of calls received: 105	

Of the documented calls:

12% were for legal	58% were for housing
15% were for in home services	

Commissioner Virobik reported that Focal Point had done a presentation at Providence Little Company of Mary for the Better Breathers Club. She noted that directories were now available.

#### **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

Commissioner Craft reported on internet hackers.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Commissioner Virobik nominated Commissioner K. Davis for Chairperson and Commissioner K. Davis accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Craft nominated Commissioner Kraemer for Chairperson, but Commissioner Kraemer respectfully declined the nomination.

Commissioner K. Davis nominated Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino to repeat as Chairperson and she accepted the nomination.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner Craft seconded, to vote on the two nominations together, with the person receiving the most votes to be elected Chair and the other person to be elected Vice Chair. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Davis received five votes and Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino received two. The Commission agreed that Commissioner Davis would serve as Chairman with Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino serve as Vice-Chair.

#### **UPDATE- TORRANCE TRAVELERS EXCURSION PROGRAM**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the City Council had referred the concern about the Tour fee increases to the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee for review. She added that she would inform the Commission of the date for the upcoming Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee meeting as soon as the date was confirmed.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that Tour attendance was 40% less after the fee increase and some of the tours had had to be cancelled.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand noted that the non-resident fee increase had been adjusted from a flat fee to a sliding scale based on the total cost of the event.

There was a discussion on ways to have representation at the Committee meeting as well as topics and issues to discuss at the meeting.

#### **ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Virobik thanked Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino for her leadership as the Chair of the Commission.

Commissioner Kraemer noted that the South Bay Genealogical Society would present, "Who Do You Think You Are?"; the past, the present and the future of Torrance, on September 19 at the James Armstrong Theater.

Commissioner K. Davis stated that she would be attending an Omnilore class on the changes in medicine due to technology.

Farrah Benedict noted that Home Instead would begin a program for caregivers for Alzheimer's in September. She added that Home Instead had begun planning for their 2012 Santa program and was looking for a space to hold the gift wrapping portion of the program.

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, distributed information on the Health & Healing Center and the Torrance Memorial Learning Garden. She noted that the lecture presented on June 28, by Mimi Guarneri, M.D., on Prevention: Nutrition and Supplements for a Healthy Lifestyle, as well as other lectures, could be seen on the Torrance Memorial website, under quick links, educational videos.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center

Approved as Amended August 14, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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